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18 *Counsel for Plaintiff, Melissa Moore as Parent and natural Guardian of the Minor, B.C.*

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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR**  
**THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

MELISSA MOORE as Parent and Natural  
Guardian of the Minor, B.C.

Plaintiffs,

v.

COCHLEAR LIMITED, an Australian Public  
company; and COCHLEAR AMERICAS, a  
Delaware Corporation  
Defendants.

**Case No. 1:20-cv-753 (MAD/TWD)**

**COMPLAINT**

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

1. Plaintiff MELISSA MOORE as Parent and Natural Guardian of the Minor, B.C. ("Plaintiff")  
brings this action because a Cochlear Nucleus CI512 cochlear implant medical device ("Subject  
Cochlear Implant") manufactured, distributed, and sold by Defendants, Cochlear Limited

1 (“CLTD”) and Cochlear Americas Corporation (“CAM”) failed after it was surgically implanted  
2 into Plaintiff’s body, requiring further surgery to remove and replace the defective Subject  
3 Cochlear Implant.

4  
5 2. The Cochlear Nucleus CI500 range of cochlear implant medical devices, which includes the  
6 Cochlear Nucleus CI512 model that Plaintiff received, were subject to a global recall issued in  
7 September 2011, due to an increase in the number of Cochlear Nucleus CI512 implant failures.

8 3. The United States Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) had previously approved a  
9 certain design, materials, construction, manufacturing method, testing, and labeling of  
10 Defendants’ Cochlear Nucleus CI512 cochlear implant medical device pursuant to that agency’s  
11 premarket approval process (“PMA”).  
12

13 4. Specifically, Defendants’ Cochlear Nucleus CI512 cochlear implant medical device was  
14 approved as a supplement to PMA P970051, which was originally approved by the FDA on or  
15 about June 25, 1998. The PMA supplement for Defendants’ Cochlear Nucleus CI512 was  
16 approved by the FDA on August 28, 2009.  
17

18 5. As is more fully set forth herein, Defendants failed to comply with the specifications and  
19 requirements of the PMA, federal law and federal regulations. As a result, Plaintiff suffered  
20 personal injuries.

21 6. As a result of Defendants’ failure to comply with the specifications and requirements of the  
22 PMA, federal law and federal regulations, the Cochlear Nucleus CI500 range of cochlear implant  
23 medical devices, including the Cochlear Nucleus CI512, were subject to a global recall issued in  
24 September 2011.  
25

26 7. This recall was predicated upon the Defendants’ knowledge that their Cochlear Nucleus  
27 CI512 series had experienced an increased failure rate as result of “hermeticity” or sealing  
28 compromises in the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 devices, and that these failures were caused by

1 inexcusable manufacturing defects resulting from Defendants' failure to comply with the  
2 specifications and requirements of the PMA, federal law and federal regulations. These same  
3 defects caused the failure of Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant as result of "hermeticity" or  
4 sealing compromises.  
5

6 8. As more fully set forth herein, Defendants exposed Plaintiff to the risk of medical device  
7 failure, corrective surgery and personal injury, among other things, as a result of Defendants'  
8 failure to comply with the specifications and requirements of the PMA, federal law and federal  
9 regulations.  
10

11 9. Plaintiff's claims are premised entirely on Defendants' failure to comply with the PMA,  
12 federal law, and federal regulations, subjecting Defendants to liability for Plaintiff's parallel state  
13 law claims set forth herein.

14 10. Plaintiff's parallel state law claims set forth herein will not impose any requirement or  
15 standard relating to the safety or effectiveness of the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 cochlear implant  
16 medical device, or any other matter regulated by the FDA, that is different from, or in addition to,  
17 any requirement applicable to the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 cochlear implant medical device under  
18 the PMA, federal law, or federal regulations.  
19

20 11. Plaintiff does not challenge the FDA's approval of the design, manufacturing process, or  
21 labeling of a premarket approved medical device in this action. Rather, by pursuing their parallel  
22 state law claims set forth herein, Plaintiff seeks to hold Defendants responsible for their injuries  
23 and damages proximately caused by the Defendants' failure to comply with the specifications and  
24 requirements of the PMA, federal law, and federal regulations with respect to the Subject  
25 Cochlear Implant.  
26

27 12. Plaintiff does not claim herein that the Subject Cochlear Implant should have been designed,  
28 manufactured, tested, marketed, or labeled in a manner different from that approved by the FDA.

1 13. Rather, as more fully set forth herein, Plaintiff claims that, with respect to the Subject  
2 Cochlear Implant, Defendants' failure to comply with the specifications and requirements of the  
3 PMA, federal law, and federal regulations proximately caused them to suffer injuries and  
4 damages of a personal and pecuniary nature.  
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6 14. As more fully set forth herein, the Subject Cochlear Implant that Plaintiff received was not  
7 manufactured according to the specifications and requirements of the PMA, federal law, and  
8

9 **PARTIES**

10 15. Plaintiff is a United States citizen and resident of the State of New York, domiciled in  
11 Stottville, Columbia County, New York.

12 16. Defendant Cochlear Limited ("CLTD") is an Australian public company with its principal  
13 place of business in New South Wales, Australia.

14 17. CLTD holds itself out as "The leading global expert in implantable hearing solutions."  
15

16 18. Defendant Cochlear Americas Corporation ("CAM") is a Delaware corporation with its  
17 principal place of business in Centennial, Colorado

18 19. CAM is a wholly owned subsidiary of CLTD.

19 20. CLTD established and maintains CAM as its wholly owned subsidiary for the purpose of  
20 conducting business on behalf of and for the benefit of CLTD in the United States, including in  
21 the forum state of New York.  
22

23 21. CLTD represents in its Annual Report of 2016 that it maintains its "regional headquarters in  
24 Denver, US."

25 22. CLTD purposefully directs and sells its cochlear implants into the State of New York. On its  
26 website, CLTD lists 30 separate cochlear implant clinics in the State of New York to obtain its  
27 implants. Specific to this case, CLTD directs patients, including the minor plaintiff, to the  
28 Albany Medical Center, which is where the minor Plaintiff underwent surgeries both to implant

1 and remove the Subject Cochlear Implant.

2 23. CLTD caused the Subject Cochlear Implant to be shipped to and tested at its facility in  
3 Australia for post-explant failure analysis.

4 24. CLTD established and maintains CAM to create, control, and employ the distribution system  
5 that bring CLTD's products into the United States, including the Subject Cochlear Implant into  
6 the forum state of New York.

7 25. At all times relevant, CLTD, through its directors, officers, employees, and managing  
8 agents, had actual knowledge that the products that it manufactured, including the Subject  
9 Cochlear Implant, were being marketed and sold in the forum state of New York.

10 26. At all times relevant herein, CAM's actions in the United States, including in the forum state  
11 of New York, on behalf of and for the exclusive benefit of CLTD, include sales, marketing,  
12 distribution, service, finance, regulatory and administration of CLTD's products, including the  
13 Subject Cochlear Implant.

14 27. At all times relevant, the products that CLTD manufactures, including the Subject Cochlear  
15 Implant, have been sold and distributed exclusively in the United States and the New York forum  
16 through CAM.

17 28. At all times relevant, CAM's sales revenue for CLTD's products in the United States,  
18 including New York, have been included in CLTD's revenue figures reported in its Annual  
19 Reports.

20 29. At all times relevant, CAM's employees have been included in CLTD's reporting of its total  
21 number of employees in its Annual Reports.

22 30. CLTD purposefully availed itself on a frequent and regular basis to the laws and protections  
23 of the United States of America by applying to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on  
24 at least 26 occasions over the past 20 years for trademark and service mark protection. CLTD has  
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1 been granted trademark and service mark protection on at least 26 occasions in the United States,  
2 each time purposefully availing itself to the benefits and protections of United States law for the  
3 purpose of selling cochlear implants in the United States, as follows:

4  
5 31. On July 20, 2000, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
6 an application for trademark protection for “NRT” relating to “[c]omputer software...to control,  
7 operate and modify the operation of implantable electronic medical devices” for the Subject  
8 Cochlear Implant. On October 19, 2004, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted  
9 the request of CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration Number 2896018.

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11 32. On March 30, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark



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13  
14 Office an application for trademark protection for the image and word **Cochlear®** relating to  
15 “battery chargers and battery rechargers,” for the Subject Cochlear Implant. On September 6,  
16 2008, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD and registered  
17 the trademark with Registration Number 3502095.

18  
19 33. On March 30, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
20 Office an application for trademark protection for “COCHLEAR” relating to “batteries and  
21 battery rechargers.” On September 16, 2008, the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
22 granted the request of CLTD and registered the trademark and service mark with Registration  
23 Number 3502096.

24  
25 34. On March 30, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
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Office an application for trademark protection for relating to “batteries, rechargeable electric batteries” for the Subject Cochlear Implant. On May 8, 2007, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3240207.

35. On March 30, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark



Office an application for trademark protection for relating to “implantable prosthetic hearing devices and associated accessories and monitoring equipment” for the Subject Cochlear Implant. On September 19, 2006, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3145952.

36. On March 30, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for trademark protection for “COCHLEAR” relating to “[i]nterface devices for programming prosthetic hearing implants” for the Subject Cochlear Implant. On January 23, 2007, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3200044.

37. On March 30, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark



Office an application for trademark protection for the image and word **Cochlear** relating to

1 “implantable prosthetic hearing devices and associated accessories” for the Subject Cochlear  
2 Implant. On March 30, 2010, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request  
3 of CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3767745.

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5 38. On April 14, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
6 Office an application for trademark protection for “ADVANCE OFF-STYLET” relating to  
7 “surgical instruments for use in the implantation of prosthetic hearing devices” for the Subject  
8 Cochlear Implant. On October 9, 2007, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted  
9 the request of CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3307758.

10  
11 39. On June 29, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
12 Office an application for trademark protection for “CONTOUR” relating to “surgical  
13 instruments...for use in the implantation of prosthetic hearing devices” for the Subject Cochlear  
14 Implant. On September 11, 2007, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the  
15 request of CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3291318.

16  
17 40. On July 6, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
18 an application for trademark protection for “NUCLEUS” relating to “[m]edical electronic  
19 apparatus and implants, namely, hearing prosthesis” for the Subject Cochlear Implant. On  
20 January 23, 2007, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD  
21 and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3047821

22  
23 41. On July 19, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
24 an application for trademark protection for “CONTOUR ADVANCE” relating to “surgical  
25 instruments...for use in the implantation of prosthetic hearing devices” for the Subject Cochlear  
26 Implant. On July 31, 2007, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of  
27 CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3272721.

28 42. On August 12, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark



1 Office an application for trademark protection for “CUSTOM SOUND” relating to “software for  
2 fitting, diagnosing and programming prosthetic hearing devices and implants” for the Subject  
3 Cochlear Implant. On September 11, 2007, the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
4 granted the request of CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3292387.  
5

6 43. On August 12, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
7 Office an application for trademark protection for “FREEDOM” relating to “implantable  
8 prosthetic hearing devices and associated accessories” for the Subject Cochlear Implant. On  
9 February 6, 2007, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD  
10 and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3206522.  
11

12 44. On August 12, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
13 Office an application for trademark protection for “FREEDOM” relating to “implantable  
14 prosthetic hearing devices and associated accessories” for the Subject Cochlear Implant. On  
15 February 6, 2007, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD  
16 and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3206522.  
17

18 45. On August 26, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
19 Office an application for trademark protection for “BEAM” relating to “[m]edical electronic  
20 apparatus, namely, implantable prosthetic hearing devices and associated accessories” for the  
21 Subject Cochlear Implant. On February 12, 2008, the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
22 granted the request of CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3382348.  
23

24 46. On September 7, 2004, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
25 Office an application for trademark protection for “SMARTSOUND” relating to “[m]edical  
26 electronic apparatus, namely, implantable prosthetic hearing devices and associated accessories”  
27 for the Subject Cochlear Implant. On December 4, 2007, the United States Patent and Trademark  
28 Office granted the request of CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration Number

3349004.

47. On May 24, 2005, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for trademark protection for “AUTONRT” relating to “computer software...to control, operate and modify the operation of implantable electronic medical devices” for the Subject Cochlear Implant. On April 24, 2007, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3234050.

48. On March 3, 2006, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark



Office an application for trademark protection for the image and word “COCHLEAR” relating to “surgical devices relating to the implantation of prosthetic hearing devices” for the Subject Cochlear Implant. On March 4, 2008, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3390528.

49. On June 17, 2008, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for trademark protection for “HEAR NOW AND ALWAYS” relating to “implantable medical electronic apparatus, namely implantable prosthetic hearing devices and associated accessories,” for the the Subject Cochlear Implant. On May 18, 2010, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration Number 3790772. “HEAR NOW AND ALWAYS,” is the phrase that COCHLEAR LIMITED used and still uses to advertise the quality of its cochlear implants, including the Subject Cochlear Implant, and is the representation that the minor’s parents relied upon when choosing the Subject Cochlear Implant from Defendant, CLTD, instead of the product

1 from CLTD's competitor.

2 50. On June 17, 2008, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
3 Office an application for trademark protection for "HEAR NOW AND ALWAYS" relating to the  
4 medical software for fitting, diagnosing and programming "prosthetic hearing devices and  
5 implants" such as the Subject Cochlear Implant. On March 1, 2011, the United States Patent and  
6 Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD and registered the trademark with Registration  
7 Number 3925986. "HEAR NOW AND ALWAYS," is the phrase that COCHLEAR LIMITED  
8 used and still uses to advertise the quality of its cochlear implants, including the Subject Cochlear  
9 Implant, and is the representation that the minor's parents relied upon when choosing the Subject  
10 Cochlear Implant from Defendant, CLTD, instead of the product from CLTD's competitor.  
11

12 51. On June 17, 2008, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
13 Office an application for service mark protection for "HEAR NOW AND ALWAYS" relating to  
14 audiologist services, therapy services and surgery services for "the implantation of prosthetic  
15 hearing devices and components thereof, such as the Subject Cochlear Implant. On November  
16 11, 2008, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD and  
17 registered the service mark with Registration Number 3822461. "HEAR NOW AND  
18 ALWAYS," is the phrase that COCHLEAR LIMITED used and still uses to advertise the quality  
19 of its cochlear implants, including the Subject Cochlear Implant, and is the representation that the  
20 minor's parents relied upon when choosing the Subject Cochlear Implant from Defendant, CLTD,  
21 instead of the product from CLTD's competitor.  
22

23 52. On February 11, 2011, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
24 Office an application for trademark protection and service mark protection for "CODACS"  
25 relating to "prosthetic implantable hearing devices" such as the Subject Cochlear Implant. On  
26 January 6, 2015, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD and  
27  
28

1 registered the trademark and service mark with Registration Number 4665424.

2 53. On June 30, 2011, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
3 Office an application for service mark protection for “MYCOCHLEAR” relating to the design  
4 and development of computer hardware and software, provision of online non-downloadable  
5 software, and the creation of an on-line community for users of its Cochlear Implants, including  
6 the Subject Cochlear Implant. On September 11, 2012, the United States Patent and Trademark  
7 Office granted the request of CLTD and registered the service mark with Registration Number  
8 4204119.  
9

10 54. On June 30, 2011, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
11 Office an application for trademark protection and service mark protection for “COCHLEAR”  
12 relating to “non-cochlear implant prosthetic implantable hearing devices.” On October 7, 2014,  
13 the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD and registered the  
14 trademark and service mark with Registration Number 4615507.  
15

16 55. On November 20, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
17 Office an application for service mark protection for “COCHLEAR” relating to CLTD’s business  
18 management services, billing services, marketing services and advertising services for prosthetic  
19 hearing devices, including the Subject Cochlear Implant. On February 26, 2019, the United  
20 States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request of CLTD and registered the service mark  
21 with Registration Number 1388179.  
22

23 56. On November 20, 2017, Defendant COCHLEAR filed with the United States Patent and  
24 Trademark Office an application for service mark protection for “NUCLEUS” relating to CLTD’s  
25 business management services, billing services, marketing services, advertising services, and  
26 software services for the programming, testing, controlling and managing of prosthetic hearing  
27 devices, including the Subject Cochlear Implant. In fact, the Subject Cochlear Implant is referred  
28

1 to by Defendant CLTD as the “Nucleus.” This application was based on an earlier application and  
2 approval for the same word. The United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request  
3 of CLTD and registered the service mark with Registration Number 1400736.

4  
5 57. CLTD purposefully availed itself on a frequent and regular basis to the laws and protections  
6 of the United States of America by applying to the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
7 over 100 times over the past 13 years for patent protection. CLTD has been granted patent  
8 protection for over 100 patents in the United States, each time purposefully availing itself to the  
9 benefits and protections of United States law for the purpose of selling cochlear implants in the  
10 United States, as follows:

11  
12 58. On August 16, 2007 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
13 “Recognition of Implantable Medical Device” for its cochlear implants. On June 9, 2020, the  
14 United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number  
15 RE48,038.

16  
17 59. On November 10, 2008 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
18 “Spanning Connector For Implantable Hearing Instrument” for its cochlear implants. On May 5,  
19 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent  
20 Number 10,645,502.

21  
22 60. On March 10, 2009 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
23 “Feedthrough Arrangement For Medical Device” for its cochlear implants. On March 3, 2020,  
24 the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent  
25 Number 10,576,275.

26  
27 61. On November 1, 2011, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
28 Office an application for patent protection for “Sound Processing With Increased Noise  
Suppression” for its cochlear implants. On September 17, 2019, the United States Patent and

1 Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,418,047.

2 62. On February 14, 2012, Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
3 “Customization Of Bone Conduction Hearing Devices” for its bone-anchored hearing devices.

4 On January 7, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and  
5 issued CLTD Patent Number 10,531,208.

6  
7 63. On May 31, 2012, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
8 Office an application for patent protection for “Convertibility Of A Bone Conduction Device” for  
9 its bone-anchored hearing devices. On September 17, 2019, the United States Patent and  
10 Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,419,861.

11  
12 64. On September 28, 2012, Defendant CLTD it filed with the United States Patent and  
13 Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Adjustable Fixation Device Having  
14 Reduced Infection” for its cochlear implants. On July 23, 2019, the United States Patent and  
15 Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,362,417.

16 65. On June 24, 2013 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Observer-  
17 Based Cancellation System for Implantable Hearing Instruments” for its cochlear implants. On  
18 January 21, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued  
19 CLTD Patent Number 10,542,350.

20  
21 66. On October 11, 2013, Defendant CLTD it filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
22 Office an application for patent protection for “Devices For Enhancing Transmissions Of Stimuli  
23 In Auditory Prostheses” for its bone-anchored hearing devices. On October 22, 2019, the United  
24 States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number  
25 10,455,336.

26  
27 67. On November 18, 2014, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
28 Office an application for patent protection for “Own Voice Body Conducted Noise Management”

1 for its cochlear implants. On April 9, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
2 granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,257,619.

3  
4 68. On April 24, 2015, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
5 Office an application for patent protection for “Multi-Electrode Channel Configurations” for its  
6 cochlear implants. On May 28, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the  
7 request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,300,290.

8  
9 69. On May 19, 2015, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
10 Office an application for patent protection for “Removable Attachment Of A Passive  
11 Transcutaneous Bone Conduction Device With Limited Skin Deformation” for its cochlear  
12 implants. On April 2, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request  
13 and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,251,003.

14  
15 70. On August 21, 2015, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
16 Office an application for patent protection for “Suspended Components In Auditory Prostheses”  
17 for its bone-anchored hearing devices. On November 5, 2019, the United States Patent and  
18 Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,469,963.

19  
20 71. On August 27, 2015, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
21 Office an application for patent protection for “Bone Fixture For Medical Prosthesis” for its  
22 cochlear implants. On August 13, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted  
23 the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,376,269.

24  
25 72. On September 11, 2015, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
26 Office an application for patent protection for “Configuration Of Hearing Prosthesis Sound  
27 Processor Based On Visual Interaction With External Device” for its cochlear implants. On  
28 November 19, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and  
issued CLTD Patent Number 10,484,801.

1 73. On September 24, 2015, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
2 Office an application for patent protection for “Feedback Path Evaluation Based On An Adaptive  
3 System” for its cochlear implants. On May 28, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark  
4 Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,306,377.  
5

6 74. On September 25, 2015, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
7 Office an application for patent protection for “Implant Magnet System” for its cochlear implants.  
8 On March 19, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and  
9 issued CLTD Patent Number 10,232,171.  
10

11 75. On September 25, 2015, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
12 Office an application for patent protection for “Relay Interface For Connecting An Implanted  
13 Medical Device To An External Electronics Device” for its cochlear implants. On November 26,  
14 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent  
15 Number 10,485,974.  
16

17 76. On September 30, 2015, Defendant COCHLEAR filed with the United States Patent and  
18 Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Method And Device For Intracochlea  
19 Impedance Measurement” for its cochlear implants. On May 7, 2019, the United States Patent  
20 and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,278,610.  
21

22 77. On October 19, 2015, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
23 Office an application for patent protection for “Implantable Auditory Prosthesis With Floating  
24 Mass Transducer” for its cochlear implants. On July 2, 2019, the United States Patent and  
25 Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,341,789.  
26

27 78. On October 19, 2015, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
28 Office an application for patent protection for “Smoothing Power Consumption Of An Active  
Medical Device” for its cochlear implants. On August 20, 2019, the United States Patent and



1 Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,390,153.

2 79. On December 8, 2015, Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
3 “Impulse Noise Management” for its cochlear implants. On January 7, 2020, the United States  
4 Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,525,265.  
5

6 80. On January 26, 2016 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “DACs  
7 Actuator” for its cochlear implants. On March 17, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark  
8 Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,595,141.

9 81. On January 28, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
10 Office an application for patent protection for “Advanced Management Of An Implantable Sound  
11 Management System” for its cochlear implants. On May 7, 2019, the United States Patent and  
12 Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,284,968.  
13

14 82. On March 8, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
15 Office an application for patent protection for “Integrated Implantable Hearing Device,  
16 Microphone And Power Unit” for its cochlear implants. On October 2, 2019, the United States  
17 Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,449,376.  
18

19 83. On March 10, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
20 Office an application for patent protection for “Auditory Signal Processing” for its cochlear  
21 implants. On July 2, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request  
22 and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,335,591.

23 84. On March 14, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
24 Office an application for patent protection for “Prosthesis Adapter” for its cochlear implants. On  
25 September 24, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and  
26 issued CLTD Patent Number 10,425,750.  
27

28 85. On March 18, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark

1 Office an application for patent protection for “Input selection for an auditory prosthesis” for its  
2 cochlear implants. On September 10, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
3 granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,406,359.

4  
5 86. On March 26, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
6 Office an application for patent protection for “Dual Power Supply” for its cochlear implants. On  
7 September 24, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and  
8 issued CLTD Patent Number 10,425,751.

9  
10 87. On March 27, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
11 Office an application for patent protection for “Tinnitus Masking In Hearing Prostheses” for its  
12 cochlear implants. On March 5, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the  
13 request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,225,671.

14  
15 88. On May 18, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
16 Office an application for patent protection for “Wireless Communication In An Implantable  
17 Medical Device System” for its cochlear implants. On February 19, 2019, the United States  
18 Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,207,117.

19  
20 89. On May 18, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
21 Office an application for patent protection for “Micro-Charge Stimulation” for its cochlear  
22 implants. On July 9, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request  
23 and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,342,975.

24  
25 90. On May 18, 2016 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Execution  
26 And Initialisation Of Processes For A Device” for its cochlear implants. On April 7, 2020, the  
27 United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number  
28 10,616,695.

91. On May 18, 2016 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Implant

1 Infection Control” for its cochlear implants. On January 21, 2020, the United States Patent and  
2 Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,537,743.

3 92. On May 18, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
4 Office an application for patent protection for “Bone conduction devices utilizing multiple  
5 actuators” for its bone-anchored hearing devices. On September 10, 2019, the United States  
6 Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,412,510.

7 93. On May 19, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
8 Office an application for patent protection for “Audio Logging For Protected Privacy” for its  
9 cochlear implants. On March 19, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted  
10 the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,237,664.

11 94. On May 24, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
12 Office an application for patent protection for “Neutralizing The Effect Of A Medical Device  
13 Location” for its cochlear implants. On August 27, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark  
14 Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,397,710.

15 95. On May 25, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
16 Office an application for patent protection for “External Component With Inductance And  
17 Mechanical Vibratory Functionality” for its cochlear implants. On June 11, 2019, the United  
18 States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number  
19 10,321,247.

20 96. On May 26, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
21 Office an application for patent protection for “Device Monitoring For Program Switching” for its  
22 cochlear implants. On March 26, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted  
23 the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,244,332.

24 97. On May 26, 2016 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Electrode  
25  
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28

1 Selection” for its cochlear implants. On January 21, 2020, the United States Patent and  
2 Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,537,739.

3 98. On June 9, 2016 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Advanced  
4 Scene Classification For Prosthesis” for its cochlear implants. On April 21, 2020, the United  
5 States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number  
6 10,631,101.

7  
8 99. On June 21, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
9 Office an application for patent protection for “Automated Inner Ear Diagnoses” for its cochlear  
10 implants. On May 21, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request  
11 and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,292,644.

12  
13 100. On June 30, 2016 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Systems  
14 And Methods For Alerting Auditory Prosthesis Recipient” for its cochlear implants. On January  
15 28, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD  
16 Patent Number 10,543,371.

17  
18 101. On July 7, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
19 an application for patent protection for “Integrity Evaluation System In An Implantable Hearing  
20 Prosthesis” for its cochlear implants. On March 5, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark  
21 Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,220,201.

22 102. On July 11, 2016 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
23 “Individualized Rehabilitation Training of A Hearing Prosthesis Recipient” for its cochlear  
24 implants. On February 5, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the  
25 request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,198,964.

26  
27 103. On July 12, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
28 an application for patent protection for “Hearing Prosthesis Programming” for its cochlear

implants. On July 23, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,357,656.

104. On July 14, 2016 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Cartridge For An Electrode Array Insertion Device” for its cochlear implants. On January 28, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,543,125.

105. On July 18, 2016 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Traducer Management” for its cochlear implants. On March 24, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,602,284.

106. On July 18, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Integrity Management Of An Implantable Device” for its cochlear implants. On November 12, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,477,332.

107. On July 26, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Implantable Medical Device Charging” for its cochlear implants. On December 17, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,511,189.

108. On August 2, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Implantable Medical Device Arrangements” for its cochlear implants. On March 26, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,238,871.

109. On August 24, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Monitoring Stimulating Assembly Insertion” for its cochlear implants. On December 10, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent

1 Number 10,500,392.

2 110. On August 24, 2016 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Hearing  
3 Aid Adapter” for its cochlear implants. On February 4, 2020, the United States Patent and  
4 Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,555,095.  
5

6 111. On September 22, 2016 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
7 “Coupling Apparatuses For Transcutaneous Bone Conduction Devices” for its cochlear implants.  
8 On January 21, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and  
9 issued CLTD Patent Number 10,542,351.  
10

11 112. On September 28, 2016 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
12 “Perception change-based adjustments in hearing prostheses” for its cochlear implants. On  
13 February 5, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued  
14 CLTD Patent Number 10,194,814.

15 113. On October 24, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
16 Office an application for patent protection for “Fitting Of Hearing Devices” for its bone-anchored  
17 hearing devices. On September 10, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted  
18 the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,412,515.  
19

20 114. On November 23, 2016 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
21 “Magnet Placement and Antenna Placement of An Implant” for its cochlear implants. On June 2,  
22 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent  
23 Number 10,674,287.  
24

25 115. On November 28, 2016 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
26 “Removable Auditory Prosthesis Interface” for its cochlear implants. On November 12, 2019, the  
27 United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number  
28 D866,767.

116. On December 15, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Isolated Actuator For Bone Conduction Device” for its cochlear implants. On January 29, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,194,254.
117. On December 30, 2016, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Bone Bed Drilling Template” for its cochlear implants. On July 23, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,357,329.
118. On January 13, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Fixation System For An Implantable Medical Device” for its cochlear implants. On April 7, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,610,691.
119. On January 21, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Impulse-Aware Sound Processing” for its cochlear implants. On November 26, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,492,007.
120. On January 23, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Electromechanical Transducer With Mechanical Advantage” for its bone-anchored hearing devices. On October 15, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,448,136.
121. On January 24, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Passive Vibration Cancellation System For Microphone Assembly” for its cochlear implants. On May 28, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,306,385.

1 122. On January 26, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
2 “Feedthrough Arrangement For Medical Device” for its cochlear implants. On February 11,  
3 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent  
4 Number 10,556,115.

5  
6 123. On February 7, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Sound  
7 Processing Based On A Confidence Measure” for its cochlear implants. On April 2, 2019, the  
8 United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number  
9 10,249,324.

10  
11 124. On February 9, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
12 “Execution And Initialisation Of Processes For A Device” for its cochlear implants. On April 14,  
13 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent  
14 Number 10,616,695.

15  
16 125. On February 9, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
17 “Rechargeable Battery Voltage Adaption” for its cochlear implants. On April 14, 2020, the  
18 United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number  
19 10,620,243.

20  
21 126. On March 9, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Multi-  
22 Loop Implant Charger” for its cochlear implants. On January 7, 2020, the United States Patent  
23 and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,530,177.

24  
25 127. On March 20, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
26 Office an application for patent protection for “Prosthesis Adapter” for its cochlear implants. On  
27 June 25, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued  
28 CLTD Patent Number 10,334,374.

128. On May 22, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark



Office an application for patent protection for “Configuration Of Hearing Prosthesis Sound Processor Based On Control Signal Characterization Of Audio” for its cochlear implants. On February 26, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,219,081.

129. On March 22, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Implant Heat Protection” for its cochlear implants. On April 9, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,265,533.

130. On April 3, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Wearable Band For Facilitating Hearing” for its cochlear implants. On May 7, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,284,973.

131. On April 3, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Epidermal Down-Growth Barrier” for its cochlear implants. On February 19, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,206,820.

132. On April 7, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Electrocochleography Testing In Hearing Prostheses” for its cochlear implants. On September 17, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,413,728.

133. On April 24, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Implantable Auditory Stimulation System And Method With Offset Implanted Microphones” for its cochlear implants. On December 24, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,516,953.

- 1 134. On April 28, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
2 Office an application for patent protection for “Body noise reduction in auditory prostheses” for  
3 its cochlear implants. On November 5, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
4 granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,463,476.  
5
- 6 135. On April 28, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Implanted  
7 Magnet Management In The Face Of External Magnetic Fields” for its cochlear implants. On  
8 March 3, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued  
9 CLTD Patent Number 10,576,276.  
10
- 11 136. On May 12, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Power and  
12 Data Transfer In Hearing Prostheses” for its cochlear implants. On April 28, 2020, the United  
13 States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number  
14 10,632,317.  
15
- 16 137. On May 18, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
17 Office an application for patent protection for “Implant Charging Protection” for its cochlear  
18 implants. On July 23, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request  
19 and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,357,659.  
20
- 21 138. On May 22, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
22 Office an application for patent protection for “Implantable Auditory Prosthesis Usage  
23 Restriction” for its cochlear implants. On July 23, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark  
24 Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,357,658.  
25
- 26 139. On July 5, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
27 an application for patent protection for “Automatic Determination Of The Threshold Of An  
28 Evoked Neural Response” for its cochlear implants. On October 12, 2019, the United States  
Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,449,357.

1 140. On July 6, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Bracket For  
2 A Sound Processor And A Coil” for its cochlear implants. On May 28, 2019, the United States  
3 Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number D849,954.

4 141. On July 20, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Cochlear  
5 Implant Electrode Assembly Insertion Tool” for its cochlear implants. On January 21, 2020, the  
6 United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number  
7 10,537,708.  
8

9 142. On August 7, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
10 Office an application for patent protection for “Waterproof Molded Membrane For Microphone”  
11 for its cochlear implants. On February 19, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
12 granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,212,524.  
13

14 143. On August 16, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
15 “Charging-Induced Implant Operation” for its cochlear implants. On January 7, 2020, the United  
16 States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number  
17 10,525,271.  
18

19 144. On August 17, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Event  
20 Detection In An Implantable Auditory Prosthesis” for its cochlear implants. On February 4,  
21 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent  
22 Number 10,549,094.

23 145. On September 7, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
24 “Implantable Medical Device with Multi-Band Loop Antenna” for its cochlear implants. On May  
25 19, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD  
26 Patent Number 10,658,745.  
27

28 146. On September 8, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for

1 “Controlling a Link For Different Load Conditions” for its cochlear implants. On May 12, 2020,  
2 the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent  
3 Number 10,652,667.

4  
5 147. On September 15, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
6 “Hearing Implant Accessory” for its cochlear implants. On August 13, 2019, the United States  
7 Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number D856,522.

8 148. On October 24, 2017, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark  
9 Office an application for patent protection for “Signal Amplifier” for its cochlear implants. On  
10 October 22, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued  
11 CLTD Patent Number 10,455,334.

12  
13 149. On November 17, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
14 “Cassette With Magnet” for its cochlear implants. On May 28, 2019, the United States Patent and  
15 Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number D849,740.

16 150. On November 20, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
17 “External Unit Of An Implanted Medical Device” for its cochlear implants. On February 11,  
18 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent  
19 Number 10,556,110.

20  
21 151. On November 20, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
22 “Stimulation Prosthesis With Configurable Data Link” for its cochlear implants. On June 9,  
23 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent  
24 Number RE48,039.

25  
26 152. On December 21, 2017 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for  
27 “Implanted Auditory Prosthesis Control By Component Movement” for its cochlear implants. On  
28 May 26, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued

CLTD Patent Number 10,661,084.

153. On January 16, 2018 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Power Management Features” for its cochlear implants. On February 4, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,555,093.

154. On January 19, 2018 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Hearing Implant Accessory” for its cochlear implants. On October 1, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number D861,719.

155. On February 23, 2018, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Distributed Processing Of Electrophysiological Signals” for its cochlear implants. On April 9, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,252,054.

156. On February 23, 2018, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Outcome Tracking In Sensory Prostheses” for its cochlear implants. On April 23, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,271,147.

157. On February 26, 2018, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Implantable auditory prosthesis having isolated components” for its cochlear implants. On September 3, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,398,891.

158. On April 9, 2018 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Shifting Of Output In A Sense Prosthesis” for its cochlear implants. On April 7, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,610,687.

159. On April 20, 2018, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Stimulation Management” for its cochlear

implants. On October 1, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,426,957.

160. On May 1, 2018, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “System And Method For Improving Data Integrity And Power Efficiency” for its cochlear implants. On August 27, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,397,715.

161. On May 9, 2018, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Magnetic User Interface Controls” for its cochlear implants. On May 28, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,306,383.

162. On May 14, 2018 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Percutaneous Vibration Conductor” for its cochlear implants. On June 9, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,681,478.

163. On August 30, 2018, Defendant CLTD filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office an application for patent protection for “Low-Power Active Bone Conduction Devices” for its bone-anchored hearing devices. On November 17, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,477,331.

164. On September 12, 2018 Defendant CLTD filed an application for patent protection for “Magnet Positioning In An External Device” for its cochlear implants. On March 3, 2020, the United States Patent and Trademark Office granted the request and issued CLTD Patent Number 10,582,318.

165. At all times relevant, CLTD directed CAM with respect to obtaining FDA regulatory approval to sell numerous CLTD-manufactured Class III medical devices in the United States,

1 including the Subject Cochlear Implant sold and delivered to Plaintiff in New York.

2 166. At all times relevant, CAM has acted at the specific direction and exclusive control of its  
3 parent corporation, CLTD, with respect to obtaining FDA regulatory approval to sell numerous  
4 CLTD-manufactured Class III medical devices in the United States, including the Cochlear  
5 Implant sold and delivered to Plaintiff in New York.  
6

7 167. At all times relevant, CLTD advertised, marketed, and sold its Cochlear Nucleus CI512  
8 medical devices, including Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant, to medical providers and  
9 consumers in New York, including to Plaintiff's surgeon, hospital and Plaintiff.  
10

11 168. In its Annual Report of 2017, CLTD represents that it has "a deep geographical reach,  
12 selling in over 100 countries, with a direct presence in over 20 countries and a global workforce  
13 of over 2,000 employees."

14 169. In its Annual Report of 2017, CLTD represents that it purposefully and intentionally directs  
15 its products into the United States and that "[s]urgeries for seniors, in the US in particular, are  
16 increasingly being driven by the Company's direct-to-consumer marketing campaigns."  
17

18 170. At all times relevant, CLTD targeted medical providers and consumers in New York for the  
19 sale of Cochlear Nucleus CI512 medical devices, including Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant.

20 171. At all times relevant, CLTD has advertised on its principal website, [www.cochlear.com](http://www.cochlear.com), the  
21 "Cochlear Awareness Network Events" that Defendants regularly sponsor and host in multiple  
22 locations in New York, where consumers like Plaintiff can "Explore how the Cochlear®  
23 Awareness Network can be a resource for those seeking information on advanced hearing loss  
24 solutions and provide support to those who have Nucleus® Cochlear Implant and Baha®  
25 technology!"  
26

27 172. Through Cochlear's website [www.cochlearcommunity.com](http://www.cochlearcommunity.com), CLTD sponsors various  
28 meetings throughout the United States which it describes as being "for CI Users and family

members of CI users."

173. At all times relevant Defendants, both individually and collectively, were engaged in the business of designing, licensing, manufacturing, distributing, selling, marketing, obtaining regulatory approval for, and introducing into the stream of commerce throughout the United States, including the forum state of New York, numerous products manufactured by CLTD, including Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant.

174. As a result of all of the foregoing, Defendants sold and delivered the Subject Cochlear Implant in the forum state of New York.

175. As a result of all of the foregoing, Defendants' sale and delivery of the Subject Cochlear Implant in the forum state of New York was not simply an isolated occurrence, but rather arose from Defendants' efforts to create and serve the market for their products, including the Subject Cochlear Implant, in the forum state of New York.

176. As a result of all of the foregoing, the Subject Cochlear Implant was surgically implanted into the minor Plaintiff in Albany, Albany County, New York.

177. CLTD has regularly, and purposefully availed itself to the benefits and protections of the law of the United States by filing at least six (6) lawsuits in Federal Courts across the United States from 1990 through as recently as 2018.

178. In its Annual Report of 2014, CLTD states that its Hybrid System "was launched in the United States of America in April after the FDA granted regulatory approval" again establishing that CLTD intentionally, and purposefully avails itself to the consumer market and laws of the United States.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

179. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) because there is complete diversity of citizenship between Plaintiff and Defendants, and the



1 amount in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, exceeds \$75,000.

2 180. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b)(2), because a  
3 substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred in this  
4 district, including Plaintiff's receipt, surgical implantation and surgical removal of the Subject  
5 Cochlear Implant in Albany, Albany County, New York.  
6

7 181. Defendants are subject to personal jurisdiction in this district because Plaintiff's  
8 claims arise from Defendants' actions in transacting business in the State of New York, and  
9 Defendants' commission of a tortious act in the State of New York.  
10

11 182. Defendant CLTD's actions, by which it both purposefully availed itself to the  
12 forum state of New York and delivered Class III medical devices, including the Subject Cochlear  
13 Implant, into a stream of commerce that CLTD itself created with the knowledge and expectation  
14 that the medical devices it manufactured would be purchased by and surgically implanted into  
15 consumers in New York, such as the minor Plaintiff, include:

16 a. Establishing CAM as its wholly owned U.S. subsidiary to perform sales,  
17 marketing, distribution, service, finance, regulatory and administration of CLTD's products,  
18 including the Cochlear Implant, in the United States, including the forum state of New York, for the  
19 exclusive benefit of Cochlear.  
20

21 b. Carrying on purposeful business activity in New York through its wholly owned  
22 subsidiary, CAM, which only markets and sells CLTD manufactured products, by such actions as  
23 having Plaintiff's hospital and Plaintiff as customers for its Class III medical devices, including the  
24 Subject Cochlear Implant;  
25

26 c. Having actual knowledge and purposefully directing that the products that it  
27 manufactured, including the Subject Cochlear Implant, were being marketed and sold in the forum  
28 state of New York;

1 d. Targeting the forum state of New York by soliciting business in New York through its  
2 wholly owned subsidiary, CAM, as well as through its own CLTD website  
3 reasonably designed to reach consumers such as Plaintiff and Plaintiff's parents;

4 e. Purposefully availing itself to the laws and protections of the United States by marketing  
5 its products, including the Subject Cochlear Implant, to consumers, including Plaintiff and the minor  
6 Plaintiff's parents, by using CLTD's trademarks registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark  
7 Office;  
8

9 f. Purposefully availing itself to the laws and protections of the United States by protecting  
10 its intellectual property rights in its products marketed and sold in the United States, including New  
11 York, through the more than 200 patents issued to CLTD by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office;  
12

13 g. Performing testing services in New York on Cochlear manufactured Class  
14 III medical devices, including the Subject Cochlear Implant, through employees or agents of  
15 Defendants;

16 h. Filing lawsuits in multiple Federal Courts in the United States to protect its patents and  
17 trademarks; and  
18

19 i. Identifying in its Annual Reports Cochlear Americas as a "Controlled Entity" of CLTD's  
20 for which CLTD has 100% ownership interest.

21 183. Defendants are subject to personal jurisdiction in this district in accordance with New York's  
22 long-arm statute and federal constitutional requirements because they have both purposefully availed  
23 themselves of the laws and protections of the forum state of New York, and Plaintiff's claims  
24 complained of herein arise out of and/or relate to both Defendants' transaction of business within  
25 the State of New York, and Defendants' commission of tortious acts within the State of New York  
26 which were the direct cause of Plaintiff's injuries complained of herein.  
27

28 ///

**FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

**Cochlear Implants**

184. Cochlear Implants are surgically implanted medical devices that provide a sense of sound to people who are either profoundly deaf or severely hard of hearing.

185. The Cochlear Implant is intended to convert sound into electrical energy that activates the auditory nerve, which then sends the information to the brain, where it is interpreted as sound.

186. Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant is part of a system that contains both internal and external components.

187. Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant's system's external components include a sound processor and magnetic coil that are worn behind the ear.

188. Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant's system's internal (surgically implanted) components include a receiver/stimulator that is housed in what is designed as, and is required to be a hermetically sealed (i.e. moisture impervious) titanium chassis; a platinum receiver coil; and an intra-cochlear electrode array. The internal components are surgically implanted into the mastoid portion of the skull, and into the cochlea (inner ear).

189. Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant's internal receiver/stimulator contains a feedthrough assembly that provides the connection between the electrical circuitry contained in the Cochlear Implant's intended-to-be hermetically sealed (i.e. moisture impervious) titanium chassis, and the Cochlear Implant's intra-cochlear electrode array.

190. The FDA approved a certain design, materials, construction, manufacturing method, testing, and labeling of Defendants' Cochlear Nucleus CI512 cochlear implant medical device pursuant to that agency's premarket approval process ("PMA").

191. The CI512 model cochlear implant was approved as supplement S048 to PMA P970051, which PMA was originally approved by the FDA on or about June 25, 1998. The FDA

1 approved PMA supplement S048 for the CI512 model cochlear implant on August 28, 2009.

2 192. Once a device has received PMA, the Medical Device Amendments of 1976  
3 ("MDA"), 21 U. S. C. §360c et seq., forbid the manufacturer from making, without FDA  
4 permission, changes in design specifications, manufacturing processes, labeling, or any other  
5 attribute, that would affect safety or effectiveness.  
6

7 193. Once the FDA approves a medical device, any information that reasonably  
8 suggests that the device (1) "[m]ay have caused or contributed to a death or serious injury" or (2)  
9 "[h]as malfunctioned" and that any recurring malfunction that "would be likely to cause or  
10 contribute to a death or serious injury" must be reported to the FDA. 21 C.F.R. § 803.50(a); see 21  
11 U.S.C. § 360i(a).  
12

13 194. As is more fully set forth herein, with respect to Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant,  
14 Defendants failed to comply with the specifications and requirements of the PMA, federal law  
15 and federal regulations. As a proximate result thereof, Plaintiff suffered injuries and damages of  
16 a personal and pecuniary nature.  
17

### 18 **THE COCHLEAR NUCLEUS CI500 RANGE FAILURE AND RECALL**

19 195. Starting no later than November 2010, Defendants CLTD and CAM began  
20 receiving reports of malfunctions in the Cochlear Nucleus CI500 range of cochlear implant  
21 medical devices which occurred without any apparent external cause.  
22

23 196. Starting no later than November 2010, Defendants CLTD and CAM began  
24 receiving explanted devices from the Cochlear Nucleus CI500 range which had malfunctioned.  
25 Defendants began performing failure analysis tests on those devices to determine the cause of the  
26 malfunctions.

27 197. Devices in the CI500 range, including the CI512 model, continued to malfunction  
28 without any apparent external cause through the end of 2010 and into the beginning of 2011.

1 198. Starting in March 2011, the number of complaints Defendants CLTD and CAM  
2 received monthly regarding devices malfunctioning without any apparent external cause more  
3 than doubled. Defendants CLTD and CAM continued to receive these explanted devices and  
4 continued to perform failure analysis tests.

5  
6 199. Notwithstanding the alarming number of failures of the devices in the CI500  
7 range, Defendants continued to market defective devices and continued to do so until complaints  
8 from CI implantation surgeons forced CAM to issue a nationwide recall.

9 200. Prior to Plaintiff's right-sided cochlear implant surgery on May 24, 2011, Defendants CLTD  
10 and CAM had received approximately one hundred (100) reports of malfunctioning CI500 implants,  
11 which included the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 model (the model of Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear  
12 Implant).

13  
14 201. Upon information and belief, as a result of their failure analysis tests performed in  
15 late 2010 and early 2011, Defendants CLTD and CAM knew the CI500 range of implants had  
16 a problem with moisture leaking into the devices months before Plaintiff received his cochlear  
17 implant.

18  
19 202. On or about September 13, 2011, the Australian government issued an urgent  
20 medical device recall and hazard alert in connection with unimplanted Cochlear Nucleus CI500  
21 range of cochlear implant medical devices, which included the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 model  
22 (the model of Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant).

23 203. The stated reason for the Australian governmental recall was that it followed a  
24 recent increase in the number of failures of Cochlear Nucleus CI512 model cochlear implants.  
25 The recall was considered a safety related recall.

26  
27 204. In September 2011 Defendant CAM sent an "URGENT MEDICAL DEVICE  
28 RECALL" letter to its affected customers. The letter described the product, the problem, and

1 actions to be taken by the customers. The letter instructed customers to examine their inventory  
2 and quarantine the affected product.

3 205. On or about October 3, 2011 the FDA issued a Class 2 Recall, pursuant to Recall  
4 Number Z-0003-2012, for unimplanted Cochlear Nucleus CI512 model cochlear implants.  
5

6 206. According to the FDA's October 3, 2011 recall, the reason for the recall was that  
7 the recalled devices may shut down and cease to function.

8 207. According to the FDA, there was worldwide distribution of the recalled devices,  
9 including nationwide distribution in the United States.

10 208. On or about December 16, 2011, Defendant CLTD publicly released a letter  
11 from its CEO and president, Dr. Chris Roberts, stating the following:  
12

13 "This letter updates progress on investigations associated with the voluntary recall  
14 of unimplanted Nucleus CI500 series implants, specifically information on the  
15 root cause of the loss of hermeticity. The results of our investigation to date point to a loss of  
16 hermeticity from unexpected variations in the brazing process during manufacturing. Brazing  
17 is the process that joins the feedthrough to the titanium chassis. Variations in the brazing  
18 process have resulted in a limited number of implants being more susceptible to developing  
19 microcracks in the braze joint during subsequent manufacturing steps. These microcracks  
20 allow water molecules to enter the implant resulting in the malfunction of specific electronic  
21 components (typically one of four diodes).  
22

23 \*\*\*  
24

25 The overall proportion of CI500 series devices that has failed is approximately 1.9% of  
26 registered implants globally with similar percentages in all three regions (The Americas,  
27 Europe Middle East & Africa (EMEA) and Asia Pacific). There were fewer reported failures  
28 in November 2011 than in October 2011."

1       209. On or about February 6, 2012 Defendant CLTD publicly released another letter  
2 from its CEO and president, Dr. Chris Roberts, advising, among other things, that:

3               "This letter provides the latest information regarding the voluntary recall of  
4 unimplanted Nucleus CI500 series implants, specifically information regarding  
5 the latest observations associated with the number of reported devices failing, the  
6 failure mechanism and the clinical symptoms associated with the failure  
7 mechanism. In December 2011, we reported the root cause for the loss of  
8 hermeticity to be unexpected variations in the brazing process that joins the  
9 feedthrough to the titanium chassis during manufacturing. These variations  
10 resulted in a limited number of implants being more susceptible to developing  
11 microcracks in the braze joint during subsequent manufacturing steps. These  
12 microcracks allow water molecules to enter the implant resulting in the  
13 malfunction of specific electronic components (typically one of four diodes).  
14 Failure of these electronic components results in the implant shutting down. This  
15 failure mechanism continues to be consistent with no other failure mechanism  
16 associated with the loss of hermeticity identified. As of January 31st, 2012, the  
17 overall proportion of Nucleus CI500 series devices that has been reported as  
18 failed is 2.4% of registered devices globally ... "

19       210. Plaintiff has, at all times relevant herein, suffered from profound hearing loss.

20       211. Plaintiff was medically evaluated for a cochlear implant medical device, and  
21 determined to be an excellent candidate to receive a cochlear implant medical device.

22       212. On or about May 24, 2011, a Cochlear Nucleus CI512 cochlear implant medical device  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

1 designed, manufactured, distributed, and placed in the stream of commerce by Defendants, was  
2 surgically implanted into Plaintiff's body (right ear) at the Albany Medical Center, in Albany,  
3 Albany County, New York.

4  
5 213. Thereafter, the minor Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant failed. The Subject Cochlear  
6 Implant was surgically removed from Plaintiff's body on or about October 1, 2019, at the Albany  
7 Medical Center, in Albany, Albany County, New York due to the failure of the Subject Cochlear  
8 Implant's electronic components as a result of the Subject Cochlear Implant's loss of hermeticity and  
9 an "out- of-specification electronic assembly," according to CLTD's Returned Device Analysis  
10 Report and generated by CLTD itself.

11  
12 214. Ergo, Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant failed due to an electronic failure caused by a loss  
13 of hermeticity (i.e. failure of the moisture impervious seal) of the titanium chassis of the Subject  
14 Cochlear Implant's internal receiver/stimulator as well as an "out-of-specification electronic  
15 assembly."

16  
17 215. This loss of hermeticity in Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant's internal  
18 receiver/stimulator was the result of unintended variations in the brazing process that occurred  
19 during Defendants' manufacture of Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant.

20  
21 216. Brazing is the process that joined the feedthrough of Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant  
22 to its titanium chassis.

23  
24 217. These unintended variations in the brazing process during the manufacture of  
25 Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant resulted in Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant being more susceptible  
26 to developing microcracks in its braze joint during subsequent manufacturing processes.

27  
28 218. Microcracks developed in the braze joint of Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant during  
the manufacturing process.

219. Defendants thereafter failed to detect the microcracks in the Subject Cochlear



1 Implant's braze joint during its manufacturing process and related testing.

2 220. The microcracks in Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant's braze joint existed at the time  
3 that Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant left the Defendants' possession.

4 221. Microcracks in the braze joint of Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant allowed water  
5 molecules to enter Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant and cause the malfunction and eventual failure of  
6 the Subject Cochlear Implant's electronic components and constituted a manufacturing defect which  
7 was causal to the Subject Cochlear Implant's failure and the minor Plaintiff's damages.  
8

9 222. Additionally, during the manufacturing process, Defendants failed to manufacture the  
10 electronic assembly of the Subject Cochlear Implant according to their design and manufacturing  
11 specifications as set forth in the PMAs.  
12

13 223. Defendants additionally failed to detect the out-of-specification electronic assembly in the  
14 Subject Cochlear Implant during its manufacturing process and related testing.

15 224. The out-of-specification electronic assembly was unintended by Defendants.

16 225. The out-of-specification electronic assembly existed at the time the Subject Cochlear  
17 Implant left the Defendants' possession.  
18

19 226. The out-of-specification electronic assembly constituted a manufacturing defect which was  
20 causal to the Subject Cochlear Implant's failure and the minor Plaintiff's damages.

21 **FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

22 227. The Cochlear Implant is a Class III medical device regulated by the United States  
23 Food and Drug Administration ("FDA").  
24

25 228. The FDA requires a device that has received premarket approval, such as the  
26 Cochlear Implant, to be made with no deviations from the specifications in its approval  
27 application, for the reason that the FDA has determined that the approved form provides a  
28 reasonable assurance of safety and effectiveness.

1 229. Specifically, 21 C.F.R. § 814.80 provides that "[a] device may not be  
2 manufactured, packaged, stored, labeled, distributed, or advertised in a manner that is  
3 inconsistent with any conditions to approval specified in the PMA approval order for the  
4 device."  
5

6 230. A medical device is deemed to be adulterated if, among other things, it fails to  
7 meet established performance standards, or if the methods, facilities or controls used for its  
8 manufacture, packing, storage or installation are not in conformity with federal requirements.  
9 See 21 U.S.C. § 351.

10 231. Medical device manufacturers such as Defendants are required to comply with  
11 FDA regulation of medical devices in order to prohibit the introduction of medical devices that  
12 are adulterated or misbranded, and to assure the safety and effectiveness of medical devices.  
13

14 232. In addition to the conditions to approval specified in the PMA approval order for  
15 the medical device, the Secretary of Health and Human Services may prescribe regulations  
16 requiring that the methods used in, and the facilities and controls used for, the manufacture,  
17 preproduction design validation (including a process to assess the performance of a device but not  
18 including an evaluation of the safety or effectiveness of a device), packaging, storage, and  
19 installation of a device conform to current good manufacturing practices, as prescribed in such  
20 regulations, to assure that the device will be safe and effective and otherwise in compliance with  
21 federal law. 21 U.S.C. § 360j(f).  
22

23 233. The regulations requiring conformance to good manufacturing practices are set  
24 forth in 21 CFR § 820 et seq.  
25

26 234. Pursuant to 21 CFR § 820.1(c), the failure to comply with the provisions in Part  
27 820 renders a device adulterated under section 501 (h) of the Federal Food Drug & Cosmetic Act  
28 ("the Act") (21 U.S.C. § 351 ).

1       235. Pursuant to 21 CFR § 820.30(g), each manufacturer of a medical device, such as  
2 Defendants, shall establish and maintain procedures for validating the device design. Design  
3 validation shall be performed under defined operating conditions on initial production units, lots,  
4 or batches, or their equivalents. Design validations shall ensure that devices conform to defined  
5 user needs and intended uses and shall include testing of production units under actual or  
6 simulated use conditions. 21 CFR § 820.30(g) (Emphasis added).

8       236. On Plaintiff's information and belief, at all times relevant Defendants failed to  
9 perform the mandated design validation by testing production units of the Cochlear Nucleus  
10 CI512 under actual or simulated use conditions, in violation of 21 CFR § 820.30(g).

12       237. Prior to the date that Plaintiff was implanted with the Subject Cochlear Implant,  
13 Defendants had received information that reasonably suggested that the Cochlear Nucleus CI512  
14 "[m]ay have caused or contributed to a serious injury" or "malfunctioned" and that any recurring  
15 malfunction would be likely to cause or contribute to a death or serious injury of other recipients but  
16 failed to report this information to the FDA pursuant to 21 C.F.R. § 803.50(a) and 21 U.S.C. §  
17 360i(a).

19 **FAILURE TO ACHIEVE A HERMETIC SEAL**

20       238. Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant experienced an unintended loss of hermeticity.

21       239. This loss of hermeticity was the result of unintended variations in the brazing  
22 process during Defendants' manufacture of Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant, and such unintended  
23 variations in the brazing process were contrary to the requirements of the PMA, federal law, and  
24 federal regulations.

26       240. Brazing is the metal-joining manufacturing process that joined the feedthrough of  
27 Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant to the receiver/stimulator's titanium chassis.

28       241. Unintended variations in the brazing process during Defendants' manufacture of

1 Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant that were contrary to the requirements of the PMA, federal law, and  
2 federal regulations, resulted in Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant being more susceptible to developing  
3 microcracks in its braze joint during Defendants' subsequent manufacturing steps.

4  
5 242. As a result of these unintended variations in the brazing process during  
6 Defendants' manufacture of Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant, microcracks developed in Plaintiff's  
7 Cochlear Implant's braze joint during its manufacturing process, which process was contrary to  
8 the requirements of the PMA, federal law, and federal regulations.

9  
10 243. Defendants failed to detect these microcracks in the braze joint of Plaintiff's  
11 Cochlear Implant during the manufacturing process, or after the manufacturing process but  
12 before the Cochlear Implant left Defendants' control, contrary to the requirements of the PMA,  
13 federal law, and federal regulations.

14  
15 244. These micro cracks in the braze joint of Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant existed at the  
16 time that Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant left the possession of Defendants for sale, contrary to the  
17 requirements of the PMA, federal law, and federal regulations.

18  
19 245. As a result of the microcracks that existed in the braze joint of Plaintiff's Cochlear  
20 Implant at the time that Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant left the possession of Defendants for sale,  
21 Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant was adulterated pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 351 because, among other  
22 things, it failed to meet established performance standards, and/or the methods, facilities, or  
23 controls used for its manufacture, packing, storage or installation was not in conformity with  
24 federal requirements. See 21 U.S.C. § 351.

25  
26 246. As a result of the microcracks that existed in the braze joint of Plaintiff's Cochlear  
27 Implant at the time that Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant left the possession of Defendants, Plaintiff's  
28 Cochlear Implant was misbranded because, among other things, it was dangerous to health when  
used in the manner prescribed, recommended or suggested in the labeling thereof. See 21 U.S.C.

1 § 352.

2 247. Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant was adulterated pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 351 because  
3 Defendants failed, among other things, to establish and maintain CGMP for Plaintiff's Cochlear  
4 Implant in accordance with 21 CFR § 820 et seq., as set forth above, by failing to perform the  
5 mandated design validation by testing production units of the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 under  
6 actual or simulated use conditions, in violation of 21 CFR § 820.30(g). As a result of  
7 Defendants' failure to establish and maintain CGMP as set forth above, Plaintiff's Cochlear  
8 Implant was adulterated, defective, and failed, resulting in injuries to Plaintiff.  
9

10 248. If Defendants had complied with the federal requirements regarding CGMP in the  
11 manufacture of Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant, then Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant would have  
12 undergone manufacturing related testing in accordance with the PMA that would have revealed  
13 the microcracks that existed in the braze joint of Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant at the time that  
14 Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant left the possession of Defendants for sale, such that the defective  
15 Cochlear Implant would not have been implanted in Plaintiff's body.  
16

17 249. Additionally, during the manufacture of Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant, Defendants'  
18 unintended variations in the brazing process, and the microcracks that existed in the braze joint  
19 of Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant as a result thereof, deviated from the conditions of approval  
20 specified in the PMA order for the Cochlear Implant, and violated the PMA, CGMP, federal law  
21 and federal regulations because Defendants:  
22

23 a. Failed to comply with MIL-STD-883 Test Method 1014 in the manufacture of the  
24 Cochlear Implant, by performing the "bubble test" before the "fine leak" test;  
25

26 b. Failed to comply with MIL-STD-883 Test Method 2009 and/or JEDEC Standard in the  
27 manufacture of the Cochlear Implant;

28 c. Failed to comply with MIL-STD-883 Test Method 1018, by failing to properly set

1 calibrations in the equipment necessary for the proper functioning of the  
2 equipment;

3 d. Failed to qualify the Cochlear Implant using a hydrostatic pressure test and a  
4 corrosion test known, respectively, as QTP1190 and QTR1 190;

5 e. Failed to perform the QTP1 190 or the QTR1 190 tests as required or in the  
6 alternative, performed these tests improperly on the Cochlear Implant;

7 f. Failed to comply with the specified hermetic seal test procedures during the  
8 Cochlear Implant's manufacture;

9 g. Failed to perform the required visual inspections of the Cochlear Implant, and  
10 therefore failed to visualize the microcracks that existed in the Cochlear Implant' s  
11 braze joint;

12 h. Failed to follow the criteria for rejecting the Cochlear Implant as a result of the  
13 presence of microcracks in the Cochlear Implant's braze joint;

14 i. Failed to utilize the equipment, including the correct microscopic equipment,  
15 specified in the PMA necessary to observe the presence of microcracks in the  
16 Cochlear Implant's braze joint;

17 j. Failed to use alloy material in the Cochlear Implant's braze joint that was in  
18 compliance with specifications;

19 k. Failed to follow the process set forth in the PMA for the detection of alloy  
20 material that was not in compliance with the specifications, prior to using the noncompliant  
21 alloy material in the Cochlear Implant' s manufacturing process;

22 l. Employed a laser, resistance welder, or oven in the Cochlear Implant's  
23 manufacturing process that failed to conform to specifications;

24 m. Failed to control the environmental conditions inside the oven employed in the  
25  
26  
27  
28

1 Cochlear Implant's manufacturing process by failing to utilize temperatures  
2 specified;

3 n. Failed to inspect and control the hermetic sealing equipment used in the  
4 manufacture of the Cochlear Implant, including environmental control systems  
5 such as the laser and/or the manufacturing oven, to verify that such equipment and  
6 systems functioned as required;

7 o. Failed to utilize the manufacturing oven under the atmospheric conditions  
8 specified for the manufacture of the Cochlear Implant;

9 p. Failed to employ procedures in the manufacture of the Cochlear Implant to  
10 prevent contamination of the braze joint, as specified;

11 q. Failed to maintain procedures in the manufacture of the Cochlear Implant for the  
12 identification and removal of manufacturing material which could reasonably be  
13 expected to have an adverse effect on product quality to ensure that it is removed  
14 or limited to an amount that does not adversely affect the quality of the Cochlear  
15 Implant, as required;

16 r. Failed to establish and maintain procedures in the manufacturing process to  
17 control cochlear implants, including Plaintiffs Cochlear Implant, that failed to  
18 conform to specified requirements;

19 s. Failed to develop, conduct, control, and monitor its production processes as  
20 required to ensure that the Cochlear Implant conformed to specifications;

21 t. Misbranded the Cochlear Implant by concealing known risks, in violation of 21  
22 C.F.R. §§803.50(a)(1) and 806.10(a)(1);

23 u. Failed to perform design validation testing including accelerated life cycle testing  
24 in an environment mimicking the human implant environment, in violation of 21  
25  
26  
27  
28

1 CFR 820.30(g);

2 v. Failed to validate the entire device, not just component parts, as required;

3 w. Failed to execute properly on the manufacturing floor by failing to execute  
4 pursuant to the FDA baseline set of documents in the PMA relating to  
5 manufacturing processes necessary to prevent microcracks in the Cochlear  
6 Implant's braze joint;

7 x. Violated specific CGMP in the manufacture of the Cochlear Implant, including  
8 the failure to conduct management reviews with sufficient frequency, failure to  
9 establish required auditing, training, operating, testing, and quality assurance  
10 procedures including supplier quality procedures and audits;

11 y. Failed to conduct adequate post-marketing surveillance of the Cochlear Nucleus  
12 CI512, as required;

13 z. Failed to notify and warn the public, including Plaintiff or Plaintiffs physician, of  
14 reported incidents of failure, necessitating surgery, personal injury attendant to the  
15 failure, thus misrepresenting the safety of the Cochlear Implant;

16 aa. Failed to use due care in the testing, formulation, inspection, distribution, sale and  
17 instructions regarding the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 at all times prior to Plaintiffs  
18 injuries having manifested themselves, as required;

19 bb. Continued to promote and market the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 despite their  
20 knowledge of these risks at the time that Plaintiff was implanted with the  
21 Subject Cochlear Implant;

22 cc. Failed to inspect environmental control systems, including those in the  
23 manufacturing oven, to verify that the systems functioned pursuant requirements; and  
24

25 dd. Failed to report to the FDA information that Defendants received that reasonably  
26  
27  
28



1 suggested that the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 cochlear implants (1) "[m]ay have  
2 caused or contributed to a serious injury" or "malfunctioned" and that any  
3 recurring malfunction would be likely to cause or contribute to a death or serious  
4 injury but failed to report this information pursuant to 21 C.F.R. § 803.50(a) and 21 U.S.C. §  
5 360i(a).  
6

#### 7 **OUT-OF-SPECIFICATION ELECTRONIC ASSEMBLY**

8 250. Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant also failed because of an unintended out-of-specification  
9 electronic assembly.

10 251. This out-of-specification electronic assembly was the result of unintended deviations in the  
11 manufacturing process during Defendants' manufacture of Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant, and  
12 such unintended deviations were contrary to the requirements of the PMA, federal law, and federal  
13 regulations.  
14

15 252. The electronic assembly include the electrodes and electrode array that runs from inside the  
16 Subject Cochlear Implant's chassis through Plaintiff's cochlea.

17 253. Defendants failed to detect this unintended out-of-specification electronic assembly  
18 during the manufacturing process, or after the manufacturing process but before the Subject  
19 Cochlear Implant left Defendants' possession, contrary to the requirements of the PMA,  
20 federal law, and federal regulations.  
21

22 254. This unintended out-of-specification electronic assembly in Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear  
23 Implant existed at the time that Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant left the possession of Defendants for  
24 sale, contrary to the requirements of the PMA, federal law, and federal regulations.  
25

26 255. As a result of the unintended out-of-specification electronic assembly in Plaintiff's Subject  
27 Cochlear Implant that existed at the time that Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant left the possession of  
28 Defendants for sale, Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant was adulterated pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 351

1 because, among other things, it failed to meet established performance standards, and/or the  
2 methods, facilities, or controls used for its manufacture, packing, storage or installation was not in  
3 conformity with federal requirements. See 21 U.S.C. § 351.  
4

5 256. As a result of the unintended out-of-specification electronic assembly in Plaintiff's Subject  
6 Cochlear Implant that existed at the time that Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant left the possession of  
7 Defendants, Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant was misbranded because, among other things, it  
8 was dangerous to health when used in the manner prescribed, recommended or suggested in the  
9 labeling thereof. See 21 U.S.C. § 352.  
10

11 257. Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant was adulterated pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 351 because  
12 Defendants failed, among other things, to establish and maintain CGMP for Plaintiff's Subject  
13 Cochlear Implant in accordance with 21 CFR § 820 et seq., as set forth above, by failing to perform  
14 the mandated design validation by testing production units of the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 under  
15 actual or simulated use conditions, in violation of 21 CFR § 820.30(g). As a result of Defendants'  
16 failure to establish and maintain CGMP as set forth above, Plaintiff's Cochlear Implant was  
17 adulterated, defective, and failed, resulting in injuries to Plaintiff.  
18

19 258. If Defendants had complied with the federal requirements regarding CGMP in the  
20 manufacture of Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant, then Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant would  
21 have undergone manufacturing related testing in accordance with the PMA that would have revealed  
22 the unintended out-of-specification electronic assembly in Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant at the  
23 time that Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant left the possession of Defendants for sale, such that the  
24 defective Subject Cochlear Implant would not have been implanted in Plaintiff's body.  
25

26 259. Additionally, during the manufacture of Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant, Defendants'  
27 unintended deviations in said process resulting in the manufacture of an out-of-specification  
28 electronic assembly in Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant, deviated from the conditions of approval

1 specified in the PMA order for the Cochlear Implant, and violated the PMA, CGMP, federal law and  
2 federal regulations because Defendants:

3 a. Failed to comply with the specified electronic assembly procedures during the  
4 Subject Cochlear Implant's manufacture;  
5

6 b. Failed to perform the required visual inspections of the Subject Cochlear Implant, and  
7 therefore failed to visualize the out-of-specification electronic assembly that existed in the Subject  
8 Cochlear Implant;

9 c. Failed to follow the criteria for rejecting the Subject Cochlear Implant as a result of the  
10 presence of an out-of-specification electronic assembly in the Subject Cochlear Implant;  
11

12 d. Failed to utilize the equipment, including the correct microscopic equipment,  
13 specified in the PMA necessary to observe the presence of an out-of-specification electronic  
14 assembly in the Subject Cochlear Implant;

15 e. Failed to use the electronic assembly in the Subject Cochlear Implant that was in  
16 compliance with specifications;  
17

18 f. Failed to follow the process set forth in the PMA for the detection of an out-of-  
19 specification electronic assembly that was not in compliance with the specifications, prior to using  
20 the noncompliant electronic assembly in the Subject Cochlear Implant's manufacturing process;

21 g. Employed a technique in the manufacturing process of the Subject Cochlear Implant's  
22 electronic assembly that failed to conform to specifications;  
23

24 h. Failed to employ procedures in the manufacture of the Subject Cochlear Implant to  
25 prevent the manufacture of an out-of-specification electronic assembly;

26 i. Failed to maintain procedures in the manufacture of the Subject Cochlear Implant for the  
27 identification and removal of out-of-specification electronic assemblies which could reasonably be  
28

1 expected to have an adverse effect on product quality to ensure that it is removed from the Subject  
2 Cochlear Implant and replaced with an electronic assembly that was within the design and  
3 manufacturing specifications the Subject Cochlear Implant, as required;

4  
5 j. Failed to establish and maintain procedures in the manufacturing process to  
6 control cochlear implants, including Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant, that failed to  
7 conform to specified requirements;

8 k. Failed to develop, conduct, control, and monitor its production processes as  
9 required to ensure that the Subject Cochlear Implant conformed to specifications;

10 l. Misbranded the Cochlear Implant by concealing known risks, in violation of 21  
11 C.F.R. §§803.50(a)(1) and 806.10(a)(1);

12  
13 m. Failed to perform design validation testing including accelerated life cycle testing  
14 in an environment mimicking the human implant environment, in violation of 21  
15 CFR 820.30(g);

16 n. Failed to validate the entire device, not just component parts, as required;

17  
18 o. Failed to execute properly on the manufacturing floor by failing to execute  
19 pursuant to the FDA baseline set of documents in the PMA relating to  
20 manufacturing processes necessary to prevent an out-of-specification electronic assembly in  
21 Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant;

22 p. Violated specific CGMP in the manufacture of the Subject Cochlear Implant, including  
23 the failure to conduct management reviews with sufficient frequency, failure to  
24 establish required auditing, training, operating, testing, and quality assurance  
25 procedures including supplier quality procedures and audits;

26  
27 q. Failed to conduct adequate post-marketing surveillance of the Cochlear Nucleus  
28 CI512, as required;

1 r. Failed to notify and warn the public, including Plaintiff, Plaintiff's parents or Plaintiff's  
2 physician, of reported incidents of failure, necessitating surgery, personal injury attendant to the  
3 failure, thus misrepresenting the safety of the Subject Cochlear Implant;

4 s. Failed to use due care in the testing, formulation, inspection, distribution, sale and  
5 instructions regarding the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 at all times prior to Plaintiff's  
6 injuries having manifested themselves, as required;

7 t. Continued to promote and market the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 despite their  
8 knowledge of these risks prior to and at the time that Plaintiff was implanted with the  
9 Subject Cochlear Implant;

10 u. Failed to report to the FDA information that Defendants received that reasonably  
11 suggested that the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 cochlear implants (1) "[m]ay have caused or contributed  
12 to a serious injury" or "malfunctioned" and that any recurring malfunction would be likely to cause  
13 or contribute to a death or serious injury but failed to report this information pursuant to 21 C.F.R. §  
14 803.50(a) and 21 U.S.C. § 360i(a).

15 260. As a result of Defendants' deviations from the conditions of approval specified in  
16 the PMA order for the Subject Cochlear Implant, as well as CGMP, federal law and federal  
17 regulations, as set forth above, Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant was adulterated, defective, and  
18 failed, which was both causal to the failure and Plaintiff's injuries.

19  
20  
21  
22 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION:**

23 **STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY- MANUFACTURING DEFECT**

24 261. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference, as if fully set forth herein, each and  
25 every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.

26 262. Defendants designed, manufactured, distributed, sold, supplied and placed in the stream of  
27 commerce Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant.  
28

1 263. Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant that Defendants designed, manufactured, distributed,  
2 sold, supplied, and placed in the stream of commerce was defective in its manufacture, construction,  
3 or composition when it left the hands of Defendants in that Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant  
4 deviated in a material way from the PMA, CGMP, Defendants' approved product specifications,  
5 Defendants' approved manufacturing performance standards, and/or other applicable federal law and  
6 Defendants' approved manufacturing performance standards, and/or other applicable federal law and  
7 federal regulations applicable to Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant, as described above, posing a  
8 serious risk of medical device failure and associated medical treatment, including surgical  
9 procedures to remove the Cochlear Implant and replace it with a non-defective cochlear implant  
10 medical device. This conduct rendered the Subject Cochlear Implant defective, adulterated, and  
11 more dangerous than a reasonably prudent consumer would expect when used in an intended or  
12 reasonably foreseeable manner.  
13

14 264. Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant that Defendants designed, manufactured, distributed,  
15 sold, supplied and placed in the stream of commerce was expected to and did reach Plaintiff without  
16 a substantial change in the condition in which it was sold.  
17

18 265. As a direct and proximate result of Plaintiff's use of the Subject Cochlear Implant  
19 Designed, manufactured, distributed, sold, supplied and placed in the stream of commerce by  
20 Defendants, and Defendants' failure to comply with the PMA, CGMP, Defendants' approved product  
21 specifications, Defendants' approved manufacturing performance standards, and other applicable  
22 federal law and federal regulations applicable to Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant, Plaintiff  
23 suffered serious physical injury, harm, damages, economic loss and will continue to suffer such  
24 harm, damages, and economic loss in the future.  
25

26 266. Defendants' acts and omissions as alleged in this Complaint constitute conscious  
27 disregard for human safety, warranting the imposition of punitive damages.  
28

///

**SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION:**

**STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY FAILURE TO WARN**

267. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference, as if fully set forth herein, each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.

268. Defendants violated a state-law duty of care by failing to report known risks associated with the use of the Subject Cochlear Implant to the FDA.

269. Defendants failed to adequately warn health care professionals and the public, including Plaintiff, Plaintiff's parents and Plaintiffs physician, of the true risks of Plaintiffs Subject Cochlear Implant, including the propensity to fail, causing pain and suffering and requiring further treatment, including surgery. Defendants failed to comply with their duty under federal law and breached their duty to use reasonable care under applicable state negligence law.

270. Defendants failed to timely and reasonably warn of material facts regarding the safety and efficacy of Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant.

271. Defendants failed to perform or otherwise facilitate adequate testing; failed to reveal and/or concealed testing and research data; and selectively and misleadingly revealed and/or analyzed testing and research data.

272. As a direct and proximate result of the conduct of Defendants, as described above, Plaintiff suffered or will suffer serious and permanent noneconomic and economic injuries.

273. Defendants' conduct, as described above, was reckless. Defendants risked the lives and health of consumers, including Plaintiff, based on the suppression of knowledge relating to the safety and efficacy problems with Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Nucleus model CI512. Defendants made a conscious decision not to notify the FDA as required by law, thereby putting increased profits over the public safety, including Plaintiff's safety. Defendants' actions and omissions as alleged in this Complaint demonstrate a conscious disregard for human safety,

1 warranting the imposition of punitive damages.

2 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION:**

3 **NEGLIGENCE**

4  
5 274. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference, as if fully set forth herein, each and  
6 every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.

7 275. Defendants had a duty to exercise ordinary care in following the PMA, CGMP,  
8 federal law and federal regulations in the design, formulation, testing, quality assurance, quality  
9 control, labeling, manufacture, marketing, promotion, sale and/or distribution of Plaintiff's  
10 Subject Cochlear Implant into the stream of commerce.

11  
12 276. Defendants failed to exercise ordinary care in the design, formulation,  
13 manufacture, sale, testing, quality assurance, quality control, labeling, marketing, promotion and  
14 distribution of Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant into the stream of commerce in that Defendants  
15 knew or should have known that Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant had a propensity to fail and  
16 cause bodily harm and was not safe for use by consumers due to Defendants' failure to comply with  
17 the PMA, CGMP, federal law or federal regulations, as described above.

18  
19 277. Defendants had a duty to exercise ordinary care in the advertising and sale of  
20 Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant, including a duty to warn Plaintiff, Plaintiff's parents or  
21 Plaintiff's physician of the dangers associated with the Cochlear Implant that were known or should  
22 have been known to Defendants at the time of sale to Plaintiff.

23  
24 278. Defendants failed to exercise ordinary care in the advertising and sale of  
25 Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant by failing to warn Plaintiff, Plaintiff's parents or Plaintiff's  
26 physician of the dangers associated with the Cochlear Implant that were known or should have been  
27 known to Defendants at the time of sale to Plaintiff. Defendants failed to warn Plaintiff, Plaintiff's  
28 parents or Plaintiff's physician that the Subject Cochlear Implant had a propensity to fail, cause



1 bodily harm and require surgical replacement due to Defendants' failure to follow the PMA, CGMP,  
2 federal law and federal regulations, as described above.

3 279. Defendants had a duty to exercise ordinary care in the labeling of the Subject Cochlear  
4 Implant and failed to issue adequate pre-marketing or post-marketing warnings to physicians,  
5 Plaintiff or the general public, regarding the propensity of the Subject Cochlear Implant to fail, cause  
6 bodily harm and require surgical replacement all due to Defendants' failure to follow the PMA,  
7 CGMP, federal law and federal regulations, as described above.

9 280. Despite the fact that Defendants knew or should have known that the Subject Cochlear  
10 Implant posed a serious risk of bodily harm to consumers, Defendants continued to manufacture  
11 and market the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 for use by consumers, including Plaintiff, even though  
12 they failed to comply with the PMA, CGMP, federal law and federal regulations with respect to  
13 this medical device, as described above.

15 281. Defendants knew or should have known that consumers such as Plaintiff would  
16 foreseeably suffer injury as a result of Defendants' failure to exercise ordinary care as described  
17 above.

19 282. Defendants' conduct breached their duty of ordinary care to Plaintiff by failing to  
20 exercise ordinary care under the circumstances.

21 283. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions, Plaintiff  
22 suffered serious physical injury, harm, damages and economic loss, including but not limited to  
23 undergoing surgery, pain and suffering and will continue to suffer such harm, damages and  
24 economic loss in the future.

26 284. Defendants conduct as described herein was reckless. Defendants risked the life  
27 and health of Plaintiff through the sale of the Subject Cochlear Implant with knowledge of the safety  
28 and efficacy problems and suppressed this knowledge from the FDA and the general public,

1 including Plaintiff. Upon information and belief, Defendants made conscious decisions not to  
2 notify the FDA, or warn or inform the unsuspecting consuming public, including Plaintiff.  
3 Defendant placed profits before public safety. Defendants' actions and omissions as alleged in  
4 this Complaint demonstrate a conscious disregard for human safety, warranting the imposition of  
5 punitive damages.  
6

7 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION:**

8 **NEGLIGENCE PER SE**

9 285. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference, as if fully set forth herein, each and  
10 every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.  
11

12 286. Defendants had a duty to exercise ordinary care in following the PMA, CGMP,  
13 federal law and federal regulations in the design, formulation, testing, quality assurance, quality  
14 control, labeling, manufacture, marketing, promotion, sale and/or distribution of Plaintiff's  
15 Subject Cochlear Implant into the stream of commerce.

16 287. Defendants failed to exercise ordinary care in the design, formulation, testing,  
17 quality assurance, quality control, labeling, manufacture, marketing, promotion, sale and/or  
18 distribution of Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant into the stream of commerce in that Defendants  
19 knew or should have known that Plaintiff's Subject Cochlear Implant had a propensity to fail and  
20 cause bodily harm and was not safe for use by consumers, including Plaintiff, because Defendants  
21 failed to comply with the PMA, CGMP, federal law or federal regulations, as described above.  
22

23 288. Despite the fact that Defendants knew or should have known that the Subject Cochlear  
24 Implant posed a serious risk of bodily harm to consumers, including Plaintiff, Defendants  
25 continued to manufacture and market the Cochlear Nucleus CI512 for use by consumers,  
26 including Plaintiff, even though they failed to comply with the PMA, CGMP, federal law and  
27 federal regulations with respect to this medical device, as described above.  
28

1 289. Plaintiff, as the recipient of the Subject Cochlear Implant, is within the class of persons  
2 the statutes and regulations described above are designed to protect and Plaintiff's injuries  
3 complained of herein are the type of harm these statutes and regulations are designed to prevent.  
4

5 290. Defendants knew or should have known that consumers such as Plaintiff would  
6 foreseeably suffer injury as a result of Defendants' failure to exercise ordinary care as described  
7 above.

8 291. Defendants' conduct breached their duty of ordinary care to Plaintiff by failing to  
9 exercise ordinary care under the circumstances.

10 292. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions, Plaintiff  
11 suffered serious physical injury, harm, damages and economic loss, including but not limited to  
12 undergoing surgery, pain and suffering and will continue to suffer such harm, damages and  
13 economic loss in the future.  
14

15 293. Defendants' conduct as described herein was reckless. Defendants risked the life  
16 and health of Plaintiff through the sale of the Subject Cochlear Implant with knowledge of the safety  
17 and efficacy problems and suppressed this knowledge from the FDA and the general public,  
18 including Plaintiff. Upon information and belief, Defendants made conscious decisions not to  
19 notify the FDA, or warn or inform the unsuspecting consuming public, including Plaintiff.  
20 Defendant placed profits before public safety. Defendants' actions and omissions as alleged in  
21 this Complaint demonstrate a conscious disregard for human safety, warranting the imposition of  
22 punitive damages.  
23

24 **WHEREFORE**, Plaintiffs pray for judgment and relief against the Defendants, and each of  
25 them, as follows:  
26

- 27 1. For general damages in an amount within the jurisdictional limits of this court;
- 28 2. Past, future medical and related items of expense, according to proof;

3. For loss of future earnings and earning capacity, according to proof;
4. For prejudgment interest;
5. For punitive damages;
6. For costs of suit and attorney fees, if awarded by the court, incurred herein; and
7. For such other and further relief as to the Court appears just and proper.

Dated: July 3, 2020

**THE SULTZER LAW GROUP P.C.**

Jason P. Sultzer /s/ \_\_\_\_\_

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